

DIARY OF A **MINECRAFT** BOUNTY HUNTER



Mission **3** : Dr. Boom

Diary of a Minecraft Bounty Hunter 3

Mission 1 Finale – Dr. Boom

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PREVIOUSLY:

You again? Back for one final battle? Of course you are! Who wouldn't want to miss the epic adventure that is Danger Dan, taking on Admins and a psychotic nut with a love for TNT?

“Don't forget me!”

No one remembers you anyway.

“Awwww.”

That was Charles Brilliant, my so-called 'sidekick'. We met in an inn one time and he challenged me to an arm-wrestling contest for the right to join me in the glorious profession of bounty hunting.

“Actually, you begged me to join your team, remember?”

Be silent, lest I cut you down with my sword. Anyway, what was I saying?

“You were telling everyone how great I was!”

Doesn't sound like me. Oh yeah. I remember. I'm here to tell all you lovely people about what happened last time.

“Wouldn't they have read the last book?”

Who's got time to read a book that long? Better they read my super short and sweet version. And if they just so happened to skip the last book, at least they'll be caught up.

“Fine but remember kids, half the time Danger Dan is lying when he said he did something.”

I most certainly do not. Now, let's start with the part where I beat up three Admins using my bare hands.

“Like there.”

SILENCE!

“Whoops. Sorry.”

Right, now was I? Alright, I was getting to the part where I wrestled alligators...

“Come on Dan, tell the truth.”

Ugh, fine. Trust you to ruin the excitement. Very well, here's the actual telling:

We started things off with a showdown with Le Spy. Charles had just had his rear-end handed to him, and I was in a spot of trouble. Yet for some reason, Le Spy decided to leave me alone, with the threat of 'permanent despawning' hanging over my head.

After dousing the flames left by Le Spy, I met up with Charles once again to plot our next move. However, we returned home to find our entire house looted. Meeting up with the other bounty hunters, we discovered the same thing had happened to them.

Returning home, Charles and I discovered a note left by Dr. Boom, claiming an attack on the Tower of Notch, the rumored source of the Admin's powers, was imminent. Although we were exactly

fond of the pretentious and uptight Admins, we decided to do everything in our power to stop Dr. Boom.

Journeying to Blockopolis, we planned on ambushing Dr. Boom when he launched his attack. However, we found ourselves in a spot of trouble when the Admins decided to frame us for an attack on Admin HQ (granted, we did break into the building, but only with noble reasons in mind).

“Didn’t you steal their wall of diamond blocks?”

Only noble reasons in mind!

Right, back to the story. Forced into hiding at the local inn, we met up with Magic Mance, who’d been on a mission to relieve someone of their emeralds. From him, we learned that Valiant Victor had managed to elude capture, furthering our suspicion that he was Le Spy.

To break into the Tower of Notch and set our trap, I was forced to... ugh... dress in a woman’s dress and wig. Whilst I distracted the guards, Mance and Charles created a mold of the key to the door, which they then replicated.

After sneaking into the tower, we settled down for the night and began waiting. I’m ashamed to admit that I dozed off at one point, for when I returned to the world of the living, I was trapped in the middle of a battle between Dr. Boom and the Admins...

PART I

Dr. Boom waved the trigger he was holding.

“One move and I’ll destroy the Tower of Notch, along with my powers, unless you listen to my demands.”

“Like we’ll obey you,” a third Admin challenged, preparing his magic, “how about you surrender?”

“Hmm, let me think about that,” Dr. Boom pretended to ponder for a minute, “NEVER!”

“Dan, what do we do?” Charles asked, sword at the ready.

The Admins charged their spells, prepared to incinerate the three of us in a single instant. Dr. Boom had his finger on the trigger, ready to blow the place sky-high.

And above us, the traitor watched from the balcony. I can’t believe it took me this long to spot him. He made no move to stop us. In fact, he seemed to be enjoying it.

I reached for my throwing knife, slid it into my hand and sighted my target...

The knife flew forth.

... and struck the rope holding up the massive chandelier.

Both the Admins and Dr. Boom looked up at the same time, as the great decorative piece came tumbling down, soaring back to earth. The Admins were swift enough to teleport a short distance away, but poor Dr. Boom wasn’t so lucky.

“ERGH!” he cried, as the structure came down on him, burying him alive.

“Nice one Dan!” Charles offered a high-five, a gesture which I reluctantly returned. I suppose he’s earned it, watching me pull off that feat of amazingness.

“What have you idiots done!?” the Head Admin hissed, floating towards us with his little buddies.

“Your job,” I shot back, pushing him backwards, “I’ve been putting up with your trash for years now. Every time one of the other bounty hunters or I did some good, you’d steal all the credit and leave us in the dark.”

That silenced him for a moment, but I wasn’t done just yet.

“You’ve treated us like vermin, no matter what we’ve done to help this server. Heck, you even framed us for blowing up your precious Admin HQ. You might act all high and mighty, but if we hadn’t been here today then the lot of you would have lost your powers. What have you got to say to that?”

Darn son. If there was a mic then I’d be dropping it right now. I’d left the Admins speechless, glancing at one another sheepishly and rubbing their heads.

“I-” the Head Admin tried opening his mouth, but no words would emerge. I figured we were done here.

“Let’s go Charles,” I dragged my companion to the door. I’d find Mance and the three of us could get the heck out of here

“Hehehehe...”

Huh?

“Hehehehe. Hahahahaha. HAHAAHAHA!”

That was some maniacal laughter to say the least. Before I could grasp how truly evil said laughter was, the floor exploded.

Yup. It quite literally exploded.

“Talk about an explosive twist.”

Be quiet Charles. Yes, the floor exploded, tossing Charles and I backwards and leaving us with several more bruises to add to our ever growing collection.

“BOOM!” screamed the evil voice, as amid the smoke, a dark shape began rising from the floor

Huh, guess we weren’t done with this mission after all.

“Bow before me mortals, for I am Chaos Reborn!”

As the black smog began to clear, the face of our opponent was revealed. None other than Dr. Boom, giving off some weird purple electric energy.

“Charles, you want to finish this guy off?” I asked my partner. The guy deserved some glory every now and then.

“With pleasure,” he grinned, leaping forward and firing one of his arrows at Boom’s head.

I don’t know what I was expecting to happen, but I’m fairly certain I wasn’t expecting the arrow to explode.

“Huh, this guy’s pretty good with his explosives,” Charles quipped, notching another arrow.

“Those aren’t explosives,” the Head Admin shook his head, “that energy dancing off his body... there’s no mistaking it. He’s absorbed the power at the heart of the tower.”

So the Tower of Notch was indeed the source of power for all Admins. Guess it wasn’t some shoddy tourist attraction after all.

“Indeed I have,” Dr. Boom echoed in a demonic tone, “I thank the bounty hunters for their help. Now however, I think I’m going to go cross some things off my bucket list. Number one is getting a McDonalds. Number two is the destruction of the entire planet!”

“Not if I have anything to say about it!”

The Head Admin clapped his hands. Above Dr. Boom, a massive Obsidian cube appeared, which promptly proceeded to crush the mad scientist. Even I had to say that was pretty cool.

Of course, one does not simply despawn an Admin. The cube shattered into a thousand pieces, replaced with a giant hammer. It was promptly swung at the Head, who ducked and retaliated with a giant sword.

“Admins, assist your leader!”

The three others were charging their own attacks. Boom was occupied with fending off the Head Admin, so there was no way he’d have time to dodge. Was this really going to be the end?

Of course not. We’re not even halfway into the book.

One. Two. Three arrows descended from the upper levels, striking each Admin in the chest. I glanced upwards, spotting Le Spy in the same spot I’d seen him before. Wait a second... wasn’t he supposed to be working for the Admins?

“What is this magic?”

Oh no.

I turned. The three hadn’t been struck with any normal arrow. They’d have laughed it off if that was the case. No, this wasn’t your standard projectile. They looked similar, but these ones had purple tips. Like the one Le Spy had showed me. The one that brought ‘permanent despawning’ to its victims.

Oh dear.

They were beginning to vanish. Unable to move, unable to speak and unable to act. I removed the arrows from their bodies, but by then the effects of the dark magic had taken hold. They were despawning. This time, forever.

Le Spy had already hit three of them, and now he was targeting the Head Admin. Locked in a battle with Dr. Boom, there was no way he'd be able to dodge it. I had to act.

I drew my sword and dived forward, knocking the projectile out of flight. Le Spy tilted his head at me from the balcony, before firing two more arrows. Ha! Didn't he know I'd taken classes in Arrow Deflection? I was virtually an expert. Actually scratch that, I was the expert in this field.

CLANG! CLANG! Both arrows scattered upon coming into contact with my sword. I'd imagine Le Spy was furious by this point, but I couldn't really tell with that mask he was wearing. He prepared a third arrow, only for another projectile to stick him in the shoulder.

I looked to my right. Charles had taken one of the arrows I'd blocked and sent it straight back at Le Spy. A pretty decent shot to say the least. I should probably give him a raise.

"Dang right you should!"

On second thought, probably not. That'd mean less cash for me.

Le Spy, the traitor, clutched his shoulder for a second, removing the arrow which had struck his avatar. There was no mistaking the purple tip. He glared at Charles from behind the slits in his mask, before tumbling over the edge of the balcony. I was quick to catch him before he hit the ground.

"Guess the favor has been returned," Charles chuckled, as I gazed upon our foe.

Here was the man who'd sold out the bounty hunters. Who'd betrayed us to the Admins and who'd betrayed them in kind. Taking a deep breath, I grasped his mask and tore it off his head.

"Dang it, looks like I've been caught," Magic Mance sighed.

I nearly dropped him when I saw his face. Mance was the traitor?

"Why?" was the only word that would spring to my lips.

Mance just gave me this strange look, like one an adult would give a child.

"Don't you see old friend? The bounty hunters are done for. Not that we had anything to begin with. We've tried fighting criminals for so long, and for what? The Admins are always going to be on top. I thought that maybe if I joined them, things would finally go right for me..."

I shook my head and sighed.

"The gold you 'stole' on that 'mission'..."

"Was payment from the Admins, yes," Mance nodded, "but after working for them for a few weeks, I starting to grow sick of their shtick. So I switched sides once more and teamed up with Dr. Boom."

Speaking of which, how was that fight going?

"MONSTER!" I heard the Head Admin cry out, as Dr. Boom knocked him back with an energy blast before ascending to the roof.

"This world is finished Admin! Even you can't stop me now. But don't worry. I'll make sure you're around to see Minecraftia burn to ashes!"

And with that he burst through the window, leaving us to deal with Mance.

"Looks like that backfired too," Mance coughed. He was beginning to disappear now. The arrow's effects were taking hold.

“There’s still time to fix this,” I whispered to him, “still time to fix everything. Tell us what Dr. Boom’s planning.”

“Oh, you’ll see that soon enough,” Mance grinned. Only his head remained now.

“Hey... Dan?”

“Yes Mance?”

“Do you think you could avoid mentioning this to the other hunters? I do have a reputation to keep.”

I groaned. The magician was about to fade from the game and all he could care about was his darned reputation.

“Sounds a lot like someone I know.”

Now where did I leave that duct tape?

“You used it all up, remember?”

Gosh dang it, you’re right. Remind me to pick some up when we’re done here.

“Yeeaah... no.”

BACK TO THE STORY!

So there we were. I was holding Mance in my arms as he was being disconnected. I knew in my heart it’d be the last time I’d see him. At least, until he made another account.

“Dan?”

Oh hurry up and disappear already.

“Yes Mance?” I groaned.

“Go kick that nutjob’s rear-end.”

And with those wise last words, Mance was gone, leaving me to stare at the space he’d once occupied.

“There goes one of the greatest bounty hunters I’ve ever known,” Charles sniffed. The Head Admin handed him a handkerchief. I myself was in momentary disbelief, before I shook my head and rose to my feet.

“We have to make sure that Mance’s sacrifice wasn’t in vain...”

“Sacrifice? He took out three of the Admins and tried taking me out!”

“...Good point, although he did give us some good advice.”

“To go and defeat Dr. Boom? Wow, some of the greatest advice I’ve ever heard.”

“If you two are done arguing,” Charles slapped both of us, “we need to get moving. The longer we stay here, the further Dr. Boom slips through our fingers.”

“BOW BEFORE YOUR MASTER!”

“Something tells me he’s closer than we think,” I pointed out.

“Looks like it... alright, we need to stop him. Head Admin, any ideas?”

He opened his mouth to speak, only to clutch his chest in pain and collapse to the floor.

“Dang it,” he hissed, “Dr. Boom did more damage than I thought. He landed some pretty bad hits on me during that fight.”

“And how does the Head Admin lose to a nutty scientist?” I inquired, “Are you guys really that bad at your job?”

“Silence,” he hissed, “to cut a very long story short, when Admins take their power from the Tower of Notch, they take it from the heart of this place. They only need a portion of it to accomplish great things. The Head Admin takes twice as much, though it pales in comparison to how much Dr. Boom just drained...”

“So we’ve got a madman with a love for TNT floating around the city, with powers that rival Notch and Herobrine’s? I just want to confirm things here.”

“Yes,” the Head Admin nodded, “and there’s nothing we can do about it. All the other Admins are out of the picture and I’m too injured to take him on...”

“Why not just drain more power from here?” Charles demanded.

“Power can only be taken once. I blame the author.”

“Who?”

“Never mind. The point is there’s no more Admins to take this guy on and I’ve got no idea where we’re supposed to find candidates at this hour.”

I glanced at Charles. Charles glanced at me. We both turned our heads towards the Head Admin.

“What are you... oh don’t you even think about it.”

“We’re just borrowing this!” I promised, as Charles and I walked over to the gaping hole in the floor. Sitting at the very bottom of the chamber was a great pool of glowing blue water. A quick glance told me half of it was missing. I wonder who was responsible for that.

“As Head Admin, I must inform you there are twenty-two thousand, seven- hundred and fifty-three rules that all state you’re not allowed to do this!”

“What are you going to do? Ban us?” Charles chuckled.

We both leaped into the pool.

PART II

Admin powers. Who would have guessed it?

Leaping into that great body of water gave me a feeling unlike anything I've ever experienced before. The feeling of having several bajillion volts of Redstone current circling through your body and zapping your insides. At this point, it occurred to me why there might be a limit on the amount of power taken from this place.

Charles seemed to be feeling somewhat similar, shaking and writhing as his body absorbed the ancient arts, techniques and cooking recipes of the Admins.

Of course, I wasn't exactly happy we'd resorted to this. Fueling our bodies with the power of those we hated the most. But what other choice did we have? We failed to beat Dr. Boom in his regular, human form. And with the explosions coming from the surface, I could only imagine what his new form was letting him do.

So I sat there, allowing the Tower of Notch to supercharge me with this strange liquid. Vivid colors flashed before my eyes, and voices began to fill my head, all repeating the same question.

Are you worthy?

Are you worthy?

Are you worthy?

Being the smooth talker I am, of course I had a cool response for them.

Are you?

One. Two. Then...

Okay, we'll be quiet now.

After what felt like an eternity (also known as two whole minutes), everything began to die down. The energy coursing through my veins and the blinding rainbow burned into my eyes vanished like the voices, and I was left in control of my body once again.

I felt... I don't know how I felt. Stronger? Wiser? More handsome? No, not possible. I was already at the limit that handsome people could reach. Any more, and I'd probably break the universe with my great looks and amazing smile.

"Charles, how you holding up?" I laughed, figuring he'd probably thrown up his Admin powers.

"Pretty great."

Oh you've got to be...

Charles was floating above me. Literally floating. In one hand he held a fireball and in the other was a communications device of some kind.

"That's called a phone."

ZIP IT!

"What are you doing with that?" I inquired.

"Letting all my pals on Blocknet.cube know about my sweet new powers."

Blocknet.cube? That was where most of my fans were. How dare Charles attempt to usurp my place as the most famous bounty hunter (and most famous Minecraftian for that matter). I extended my hand as if to reach for the phone, though I wasn't expecting a bolt of lightning to blast the mobile to pieces.

"DUDE!" Charles clenched his fists, "DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA HOW

MUCH THAT COST?"

Sizzle...

It took me slightly longer that I would have liked for me to realize that Charles had set me on fire.

"OH SWEET MOTHER OF NOTCH, IT BURNS!"

I tried dousing my burning pants with water, but the flames reignited once more. I tried rolling around on the stone floor of this cave, but that only seemed to make things worse. Finally, in a desperate attempt to make sure I wasn't forced to remove my clothes, I pointed my hand at the inferno around my leg and yelled:

"DOUSE!"

A jet of water sprang from my hand and doused the fires, much to my relief. I shot my most angry glare at Charles, who whistled innocently and looked in the other direction.

"If you two are done arguing down there, I believe there's a mad scientist who's attempting to destroy the world outside."

Ah yes, the Head Admin. I wonder how he felt about us 'borrowing' the Admin powers.

"And by Notch's beard, if you don't return that magic when you're done with it, I shall personally hunt the two of you down and tickle you until you're purple."

That didn't sound too bad.

"I shall then deposit you into a volcano and let you have a nice, fiery bath for a few-thousand years. Once I'm certain only your bones remain, I shall feed them to my pet wolf."

Oooh, a lava bath and a cute dog. This day just kept getting better.

"... You don't care, do you?"

"Can't say I do!" I shouted back, "DANGER DAN AWAY!"

I leaped in a Mario-esque fashion, punching the air with my fist and ascending upwards. Sure I was a little shaky at first, even I'll admit that.

But soon, I was flying like a regular Admin.

"You hit the ceiling seventeen times before you figured out how to control your actions."

Remind me why I keep you around again.

Never mind how it happened, for we eventually soared free from the Tower of Notch and into the beautiful night sky of Blocktropolis. From here, we had a clear view of the magnificent city, from its vast buildings to enormous explosions.

Ooooooh, that wasn't good.

Dr. Boom stood hovering above the city center, summoning blocks of TNT from nothing before calling them down on the buildings below. No houses were spared his destructive acts, from dirt hurts to diamond mansions. He truly was insane.

"BOW BEFORE DR. BOOM, THE GREATEST GRIEFER WHO EVER LIVED!"

"Stand down Dr. Boom!" Charles cried, as the two of us flew over to meet him.

He turned, a confused look on his face. Once he spotted us however, the confusion turned to happiness.

"Oh, and to think I was worried the Head Admin had gotten over his little booby," Dr. Boom laughed his evil laugh, clutching his sides as he did, "oh this is too rich. He sent you punks to face me? A pair of bounty hunters who've had no prior training? Oh this is fantastic."

He continued to chuckle for a few seconds more. Charles crossed his arms and waited patiently, whilst I thought back to my childhood. All those hours spent watching 'The League of Admin Superheroes', my favorite TV-Show as a kid. Perhaps that would hold the answers to controlling my new powers.

"Tell you what," Dr. Boom continued, "if you two surrender now, I'll give you front row tickets to my master plan!"

Clicking his fingers, a much larger object began forming itself from nothing. I don't know what gave it away, whether it was the bright red color or the writing on the side that read 'TNT', but I was almost certain this was a block of TNT.

"Behold, the Super Mega TNT! The most powerful explosive device ever created. I shall use my ultimate creation to wreak havoc on the planet, and remake it as I see fit."

"What do you mean by that?" I asked, my fists clenched.

"LOOK AROUND YOU!" Dr. Boom boomed, "This whole city, this whole planet, this whole universe is comprised of only one object... CUBES!"

He was right of course. It was the first thing you were taught in Kindergarten. But so what? Who cared if the universe was made out of cubes? At least it was easy to build in straight lines.

"At least it's easy to build in straight lines," said Charles, totally stealing my thought.

"Perhaps," Dr. Boom nodded, "but there is one thing your precious lines will never help you create!"

"And what is that?" I demanded.

"Circles."

GASP!

"You don't mean..."

"Yes! The mythical object with no straight lines. The one said to be the only item Notch ever banned from this world, because it defied everything he stood for. How does one build a house out of a circle? He deemed it to be the most evil creation ever forged, so he removed it from the universe entirely, never to be seen again... until now."

His hands glowing, he began moving the block of Super Mega TNT into position. Directly above the city.

"I SHALL FORGE MINECRAFT ANEW. NO MORE CUBES, BUT SPHERES! SPHERES MADE OF CIRCLES! THE WORLD SHALL BE RIGHT ONCE AGAIN, AND I, DR. BOOM, SHALL BE PROCLAIMED THE GREATEST BUILDER WHO EVER LIVED!"

"Admin Slap!"

WHACK!

Dr. Boom was pushed backwards slightly, his cheek now red. Charles stood in front of him with his fist raised.

"You're insane," Charles spat, "we will stop you, Dr. Boom. No matter what the cost."

"THEN BRING IT ON!" Dr. Boom challenged.

And so we did.

Armed with only our knowledge from The League of Admin Superheroes, we began the most epic battle in the history of epic battles.

"SILVER CLAW!" Charles cried.

“GIANT FIST!”

Coming left and right, we tried catching the mad doctor between our attacks. Dr. Boom merely raised his hands, forming a pair of energy shields that deflected the double assault.

“Pitiful,” he sighed, “now it’s my turn.”

He turned to look at me, and grinned.

“CANNON SHOT!”

One second he was a good twenty blocks away. The next, we were face-to-face.

“CANNON PUNCH!”

WHACK!

Oooh that was going to leave a mark. The doctor’s swift strike dazed me and tossed me into the nearest building. A cookie factory. After spending a few minutes consuming the delicious snacks, I returned to the fight.

Things seemed to be going well enough for someone up against a man who could challenge Notch to an arm-wrestling contest and probably win.

“Charles, will you hurry up and finish this already?” I asked him politely, “You’re making us bounty hunters look like a bunch of weaklings!”

“Maybe if you got off your rear-end and gave me some assistance,” Charles huffed, as Dr. Boom caught him off guard with some sort of bomb attack. He quickly recovered and blasted the scientist with electricity, but that was soon shrugged off and followed with a nasty smack with an oversized hammer.

“Give up bounty hunter,” Dr. Boom hissed, “you can’t hope to defeat me.”

Maybe Charles couldn’t, but I certainly could. Dr. Boom had left himself open to an attack. He had his back to me. Now was the chance.

“DIVINE STRIKE!”

A spear of pure light appeared in my hand, which I promptly tossed at the good doctor. Its very form seemed to illuminate the night sky like a shooting star. As if sensing the attack (or perhaps seeing how bright it had gotten), Dr. Boom turned, but it didn’t help him to dodge.

The spear struck, exploding on contact and dousing Dr. Boom in burning white flames. Before he could respond, Charles had floated up behind him and knocked him over the head with an oversized frying pan.

“Nice one Charles,” I grinned.

Unfortunately, not nice enough.

Dr. Boom was quick to shake it off, tossing Charles through the nearest window with a blast of black energy. Before I could hope to reach my companion, Dr. Boom was in front of me once again.

“Where do you think you’re going?” he asked, “Oh, that’s right. The ground floor!”

BANG!

Another one of his explosive attacks. Whatever it was tossed me down to street level and into a fountain. Not even giving me the chance to catch my breath, our insane opponent brought down a torrent of TNT onto my body.

“Owowowowowowowowow.”

TNT hurts a lot, especially if Admin Powers are keeping you from despawning. However, I wasn’t sure how much longer they would last.

“Goodbye Danger Dan,” I heard Dr. Boom off in the distance through the ringing in my ears, “It’s been a pleasure.”

One final block of TNT, which looked to be the finisher. This was it. Boom was going to win.

“NOOOOOOOOO!”

In typical movie fashion, Charles flew in the path of the explosive, firing off some lightning attack as he did. The TNT detonated, tossing Dr. Boom skywards and throwing my partner downwards to join me for a swim.

I immediately forgot all the times he’d ever tried to make fun of me or discredit me in any way.

“CHARLES!” I cried, limping over to my partner.

Mercifully, he was still spawned in. But just how much more punishment could we take.

“Dan...” he croaked, lifting a shaking hand.

“Yes Charles?” I asked, grabbing hold of it. Odd, his hand felt strangely... electric.

He looked me in the eyes, a grin on his face.

“Go kick that nutjob’s rear-end.”

He passed out, as I felt more refreshed than ever before. The feeling was too familiar and too recent to forget. It was what I had experienced back in the Tower of Notch. Only then, did it hit me.

Charles had boosted my Admin Powers with his own.

“Are you two love birds done down there?”

I growled and began floating upwards. Dr. Boom had his arms crossed and was looking at his watch, like he’d been waiting for hours on end.

“Are you very much done yet? I do have a schedule to keep.”

I glared, and for a second I thought I spotted a hint of concern in Boom’s eyes. It was soon replaced with his annoying grin however.

“Let’s finish this,” I snarled.

PART III

One on one.

With Charles out of the picture, that left me as the last thing standing between Dr. Boom and him destroying the planet with his Super Mega TNT. If I failed here, it would mean the end of Minecraft as we knew it.

So no pressure.

“And so your ally falls,” Dr. Boom taunted, “a shame. He actually put up a fight. Oh well, guess I’ll just have to squash you like the bug you are and get to work remodeling Minecraft.”

As he started blabbing, I charged my next attack. Charles had passed me his Admin powers, meaning I was more or less on the same level as Boom now. However, I’d take a lot more hits than he had. Could I really finish this?

“I will stop you,” I promised, “no matter how many times you knock a bounty hunter down, he’ll always get back up. I’m no exception.”

“Bounty hunters are the lowest scum on Minecraft,” the scientist spat, “you go around trying to be the good guys, when really all you are is mercenaries. Even the Admins aren’t as pathetic as you. Why don’t you go on home and let the professionals handle this, little boy?”

“DIVINE STRIKE!”

My spear of shuddering light, now twice as bright as before, blasted forth and struck Boom in the chest. He was thrown into the nearest tower, caught completely off guard. I had an opportunity to strike. I couldn’t waste it.

“SEALING BLADES!”

Another one of the techniques I’d seen used on those superhero Admin shows. Four knives morphed into existence, which flew forth and pinned Dr. Boom to the building by his lab coat. As he struggled to free himself, I prepared what I hoped to be my final spell.

“FINAL FLAME!”

Cupping my hands together, I released a torrent of fire hot enough to melt the sun. Or you know, something close to that power. It bathed Dr. Boom from head to toe, intending to despawn him a thousand times over. If I could just break down his darned Admin defenses, I could win this battle and save the city.

“DR. BOOM’S SEPCIAL SURPRISE!”

Special surprise? Immediately, an Obsidian prison complete with iron bars formed around me. My attack impacted against the walls instead of Boom, though failed to burn down this new cage.

“Obsidian: The perfect defense against even the hottest of attacks. You really should pay more attention in school.”

Distantly, I could hear Dr. Boom click his fingers. That was when the cage began to shrink in size. The walls, floor and ceiling were all growing closer, intending to incase me in the ultimate tomb.

I desperately tried to escape. I tried every spell I knew, and even a few I’d just made up. Yet no matter what I threw against the Obsidian blocks, they just refused to shatter. I was trapped like a miner facing a Creeper. This was it. The end.

“GOODBYE DANGER DAN! MAY YOU FOREVER BE REMEMBERED AS THE ONE WHO FAILED! MAY YOUR NAME BE SHAMED FOR THOUSANDS OF YEARS TO COME! LET IT BE KNOWN THAT ON THIS DAY, WHEN THE WORLD WAS DESTROYED, IT WAS YOU WHO ALLOWED IT TO HAPPEN! DANGER DAN, THE MOST PATHETIC BOUNTY HUNTER WHO EVER LIVED!”

Yes, it was all true. I'd failed, and Dr. Boom was going to destroy the planet. Charles had pinned his last hopes on me, along with the Head Admin and Mance. And I'd failed them all.

"I'm sorry," I muttered, as the cage looked set to crush me.

"AND FYI, YOUR COOLNESS IS NON EXISTENCE!"

What?

"ALSO, I JUST THOUGHT YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT YOU AREN'T NEARLY AS HANDSOME AS YOU THINK YOU ARE!"

What!?

"OH, AND ONE MORE THING. NOTCH HAS BETTER HAIR THAN YOU. OH YEAH, HE'S BALD!"

WHAT!?

With an epic punch, I smashed the cell bars off my prison and flew from the Obsidian box. Dr. Boom hissed, but didn't look too concerned.

"BEGONE!" he declared, clicking his fingers and summoning a TNT cannon.

Dozens of the explosive cubes were launched in my direction, but I merely accelerated my speed. They all missed, leaving the path to Dr. Boom open.

"I SAID BEGONE!" he roared, forming another one of his energy shields.

"GIANT FIST!" I retorted, my hand growing ten times its normal size.

Coming into contact with the shield, it shattered immediately. Dr. Boom was defenseless once again, and I took full advantage of it.

"DIVINE STIRKE! DIVINE STRIKE! DIVINE STIRKE!"

One after the other, my spears of light exploded against Boom. The first hits only left him angry, but the next volley left him barely afloat.

"ENOUGH OF THIS!" Dr. Boom shoved me back with one final effort, before floating back to his suspended cube of TNT, "YOU'VE FAILED DAN, AND THE WHOLE WORLD IS ABOUT TO REALIZE IT!"

That familiar hissing noise. I'd recognize it anywhere. The fuse had been lit. I had only seconds before the block detonated and did a serious remodeling job on all our houses.

There was only one spell that could save us now.

"Hey Boom!" I yelled.

"WHAT!?" he spat, "WHAT COULD YOU POSSIBLY WANT!?"

"Giant Baseball Bat."

"Giant Baseball Bat?"

"GIANT BASEBALL BAT!"

And so it came to pass that on that day, Danger Dan sent the block of Super Mega TNT and Dr. Boom into Minecraft space, with a single swing of his giant baseball b-

"DAN!"

Oh, hey Charles. Didn't expect to see you here.

"Are you seriously taking credit for my victory again?"

Of course not, I was just telling our young guests that...

“You saved the world with a giant baseball bat? Please, you got knocked out on the first attack. I ended up fighting Dr. Boom for eight hours before I got him with some duct tape.”

Ah duct tape, the world’s most powerful weapon.

“Come on, maybe I’ll let you brag a little bit at my award ceremony.”

Oh fine.

NEXT TIME:

Danger Dan and Charles might have defeated Dr. Boom, but their work is far from over.

The bounty hunters are now honorary Admins, tasked with helping to keep the peace. But serious threats are starting to emerge, and the bounty hunters are hard-pressed to stop them.

A crew of pirates, known only as 'Team Grieverz', are raiding cities with powerful technology. Dan and Charles are sent to bring them down, but they'll soon experience for themselves the great terrors of the seas...